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FLASHBACK

VOLUME 23

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NUMBER 3

Preserving the Past for the Future



The Gregg House circa 1880

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

FLASHBACK

Volume XXIII

August 1973

Number 3

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FLASHBACK is published quarterly and all material submitted for consideration should be sent to the Editor at Post Office Box 357, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701.

Membership in the society is open to anyone interested in the collection and preservation of Washington County History. Dues are payable on a calendar basis and are \$5 annually. Single numbers of the quarterly are \$1.00.

Fourth Class postage paid at the Post Office, Fayetteville, Ark.

TOM . . .

(Memorial to Tom Feathers delivered by Lloyd McConnell, Secretary of the Washington County Historical Society, on June 10, 1973, at Battlefield Park in Prairie Grove.)



On February 18, 1951, the Washington County Historical Society was organized at a meeting held in the Student Center of the Lutheran Church. Mrs. Lessie Read served as Chairman and W. J. Lemke as Secretary. The Rev. G. W. Thompson, retired Cumberland Presbyterian Minister, spoke on pioneer schools; Mayor Alvin Seamster of Bentonville told of the early history of the area and showed slides. Assisting as hostesses were Lorraine Williams, Mrs. Geo. T. Stuart, Mrs. Mertye McIlroy Bagby, Mrs. Roberta Fulbright, Mrs. W. J. Lemke, and Mrs. Tom Feathers. Plans were made for visits to historical spots in the county, the erection of suitable markers, and the publication of a monthly pamphlet. Some 55 members signed up at \$2.00 per year.

Tom and Mildred Feathers were there.

Tom became interested in county history early in life. Most of us do not go in for this sort of thing until we get older; then the genealogical bug bites us.

Genealogy and history go hand in hand. While searching for one you find the other. Tom devoted much of his time to ferreting out bits of local history and making them available to the public.

Together with Mr. Lemke he combed through many early cemeteries scratching the moss from the weatherbeaten stones to decipher a name or a date. From these trips a history of burials in the county was created and we have had many letters from people in distant states telling us that they did not know they had an ancestor living or buried in our county until they read it in FLASHBACK.

I am sure, too, that they may have been run out of many burying grounds by some irate farmer who thought they might damage the broken and mud-covered slabs that had been lying there for years.

Tom's work was newspapering, his hobby history and genealogy. He loved to visit with older residents and gather legends and stories told them by their parents and get the material into print.

The Civil War played an important part in our early history, and Tom was a Civil War buff.

He served the Historical Society as its Secretary-Treasurer, its editor, its vice president, and its President. He was a Trustee for the Tebbetts house and did much to help raise the money to purchase the historic home.

The publication of the FLASHBACK requires that someone devote a great number of hours to the printing machine, the folding of letters, sorting the pages and stapling them into a booklet. Stamps must be purchased, and the FLASHBACK carted to the postoffice. There is the chore of keeping a record of the dues paid by the members, and sending out letters to those who forgot to pay.

Tom did these things, too.

Some people accumulate much of the world's goods while they live in this world, others only a small portion of it. Success is often measured by what one leaves behind when he is through with this life.

Tom left something behind—something his family will cherish, his friends remember, and the rest of us thank him many times for—the gathering together of bits of historical data and making it available to us.

Is there anything else?

—o—

The Washington County Historical Society is deeply grateful to Mrs. Tom Feathers for her gift of Tom's invaluable library and papers. These will be stored in the Tom Feathers Memorial Library and will serve as the start of what we hope will one day be the most comprehensive historical library in the area.

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A few more copies of the first edition of The Cane Hill Story are available according to the author. Funds realized from this sale are used for restoration projects in Cane Hill. The price is \$2.50 postpaid. Address Conrow R. Miller, Reedholme, Cane Hill, Arkansas 72717.

Miss Sophia Sawyer and Her School

The Cherokee Treaty of Removal of 1835 uprooted an entire nation and altered the course of history on the Western frontier. The tragedy of the Trail of Tears, that blot on American history, has been recounted by historians but the benefits brought by the Cherokees to their new home have never been measured.

Fayetteville might not have been the site for the foremost school for women in Arkansas if Sophia Sawyer had decided not to continue her missionary-teaching role with the Cherokees when they came west. Tracing the influence of an educational institution is not easy, but Mrs. A. J. Marshall (Miss Ann James who taught in Miss Sawyer's Fayetteville Female Seminary) does not hesitate to attribute the founding of the University of Arkansas to Miss Sawyer. She wrote in her autobiography "Miss Sawyer taught a primary school for years and taught thoroughly for she was not a woman to leave any work she undertook half done. She created an educational interest, to which the locating the Industrial University there is largely indebted. She is dead, but her works do follow her, and I have been surprised to find that the students who attend the Fayetteville University do not hear her name mentioned."

Miss Sawyer was born May 4, 1792 and started her missionary work with the Cherokees in Brainerd Mission in the Cherokee Nation East on November 20, 1823. She spent six years there and then on February 6, 1829 went to New Echota where she remained until July 1836. She then went to the eastern coast states where she remained until December 1837 when she rejoined the John Ridge family at their new home at Honey Creek in the Cherokee Nation.

John Ridge, his father, Major Ridge, and uncle Elias Boudinot were among the Cherokee leaders who signed the Treaty of Removal. They had made the trip to their home in the West before the large body of Cherokees departed from Georgia on the Trail of Tears.

Miss Sawyer's association with the John Ridge family began when he allowed her to use his large front room at Running Water as a school when conditions became intolerable at Brainerd Mission because of the usurpation of the Georgia authorities of the Cherokee lands.

Without the support of the Ridges and Boudinots Miss Sawyer might never have come West. She was not too popular with some of

the other missionaries who advised that she not be permitted to continue work with the Cherokees. John Ridge wrote to the American Board of Foreign Missions that she was a "lady of fine feelings and susceptibility of mind." His support was re-enforced by Harriot Gold Boudinot who also advised the Board to keep Miss Sawyer under its patronage.

The Board accepted these recommendations and Miss Sawyer turned frequently for advice and counsel to the Rev. David Greene, secretary for the Board. The letters she wrote from 1838-1848 are part of the American Board of Foreign Missions at the Houghton Library, University of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Copies of these valuable first-hand accounts of life in Fayetteville were obtained from the Houghton Library, as was permission to publish them in FLASHBACK.

(Letter 319)

Honey Creek, C. N. Dec. 27, 1838

Rev. D. Greene

Dear Sir,

After having been tossed upon a sea of difficulties, I have found a haven of rest in this island of hope, the house which I now occupy. We entered it last Tuesday as a place of residence and instruction. The first year in Arkansas has been to me a year of the greatest suffering that I have ever experienced. Not from the climate merely or chiefly; but from the moral and intellectual condition of the country, & from those influences, which I could not escape, & in which I must live & move without **doing good**. Men may talk & reason about living in such & such a state of society, & not being affected by it, I may as well put my hand in the fire and not be burned, as to expect to be unaffected by surrounding tendencies. My life, my health, my reason, & all that is valuable in existence, depend on objects about which I think, feel, & act. O to be able to turn the current of my thoughts & feelings, & stand where,

"My joys, my griefs, my passions, & my powers

Make me a stranger."

I sometimes feel, "Though I mean the form, I have no sympathy with breathing flesh." I have often thought of you, but knew, were I to write, you could only **pity** without being able to **relieve**.

Mr. (John) Ridge has built & furnished a small house for instruction, just in the edge of a beautiful prairie; here I live altogether, except taking my meals with the family at the house, that is, for me, eight minutes walk from this place. A few girls are to occupy the house with me, & board at Mr. Ridge's. These with Mr. R.'s children & what Cherokee pupils can be gathered from families, who we hope will settle around us, will constitute my field of labor. Discouraging as circumstances are, I know the Saviour can make me useful even here. Mr. Huss who you know is one of the best men in the world, has the care of the Church seven or

eight miles from here. This influence, in this region, is above all price as he is a great favorite of Mr. Ridge, and of his father's family. Our family is much nearer what it should be now, than it ever has been since I was connected with it. Mrs. Ridge has more influence & moral courage; she has also a brother & sister, with their companions, here in Mr. Ridge's employ. Her sister, & sister's husband are professors of religion. Mr. Ball, her sister's husband, who is clerk in the store, is decidedly pious, & a good English scholar - seems a man of firm principle & good judgment. I hope much from him, when I wish to see the **whys & wherefores** in Arith. Other questions in science & theology I can note down & wait for explanations from Mr. Worcester & Mr. Wasburn. I never wanted instruction more than at the present. I fear I love the Bible, & desire heaven, for intellectual pleasure more than for Holiness.

Mr. Ridge has taken a stand in morals, & in favoring the Christian religion, that it will be difficult for a man of his habits & temperament to retain. He cannot hear truth without uneasiness. He cannot escape it in the position in which he has placed himself. He has tampered with the cause of temperance, by selling wine, until he has become disgusted with **wine drunkards**, & says he will sell no more. He has a most interesting family of sons, (John Rollin, Herman Aeneas and Andrew J.) who, if they follow the instructions he is causing them daily to receive, will shun the path of the destroyer, & loath the vices of their people. The only daughter (Susan), who is capable of sufficient age to receive instruction, is almost constantly with me - s sprightly lovely child, full of budding fine . . . ; & if we are faithful, these germs of character will open into full grown flower & finished beauty of mature age.

I have received for attending Court in the old nation eighteen dollars & half. This is gone, I hardly know where, some in presents to those who waited on me during the paroxysms of fever at the different missionary stations, & some for shoes for myself, & to restore a blanket stolen from under my care, etc. The house which I occupy, and the furniture, cost from four to five hundred dollars - probably will exceed five hundred when it is completed. Such presents as Mr. & Mrs. Ridge make in clothing I receive & continue my labours in their family & among their people in the character of benevolence sustained by the patronage of the Board. In this way they wish me to live & labor, believing it to contribute to my happiness & usefulness. For myself, though I am kindly supplied here, I never more felt the need of your patronage to sustain me than at this time. Should brother Vail come to the country, may I find an assylum of rest and comfort in seasons of eschaustion in his family? So far as he & his are concerned, I have a welcome waiting me at any time. Mr. Ridge encourages us with future patronage of the school when his farm, business accounts which he has largely entered, shall furnish the means. Everything is

crowding us now, & I must be content with doing what I can. My health, from irregularity, & a want of compliance with directions given me in N. York has been miserable. Without positive pain, it was hard to conceive how I could suffer as I did during paroxysms of fever. During the first attack of fever I was at Dwight, with Miss Stetson, to whom I am under great obligation for what she has done for me, a **stranger** in this country. I have received much kindness from Dr. Palmer & Mr. Worcester also since I came to this Nation. I fear Mr. Wor.'s constitution will prematurely fail under the difficulties with which he is daily struggling. Though patient, cheerful, & contended, he is certainly flesh & blood, & must feel the complicated, perplexing, & overwhelming labours, that hourly press upon him. I do hope Mr. Vail will come to his relief.

Yours in Christ,
S. Sawyer.

P. S. May I have the Annals of Education & the (Missionary) Herald sent to me by the way of Park Hill? Mr. Huss will go there often. I have seventeen dollars yet of the money of the Board - will try to do the best I can. Do try to sustain district schools. - The Indians can do more than they have done, - **make them do it.**

(Notes: Honey Creek, home established by the Ridges in the Cherokee Nation West, located in the extreme northeastern corner of the nation.

Rev. John Huss, a Cherokee preacher assigned by American Board of Missions to Honey Creek. On April 15, 1831 he was regularly licensed by the North Alabama Presbytery.

Samuel A. Worcester, missionary to the Cherokees. Served at Cherokee Nation East from 1825 to removal, arriving in Arkansas 1835 was assigned to Park Hill, near Tahlequah, in December 1836.

Cephas Washburn (son Josiah Woodward changed spelling to Washbourne) was missionary at Dwight Mission from 1821; later established school in Bentonville, and was teacher at Fayetteville Female Seminary. Founder of Far West Seminary, later Ozark Institute, at Mount Comfort.

John Ridge's sons were John Rollin, Herman, Aerneas and Andrew J. His daughters were Clarinda, Susan (who married J. W. Washbourne) and Flora Chamberlin who married W. D. Polson.

John Vail, missionary, served at Brainerd from 1819 to 1821 and was released by the Board June 18, 1839, but later served at Union Mission located 25 miles above Fort Gibson.

Ellen Stetson was assigned to Dwight Mission Dec. 22, 1821.

Dr. Marcus, M.D., was missionary physician assigned at Union Mission.)

(Letter 320)

Enterprise C. N. Tues eve March 5th, 1839

Rev. David Green

Very Dear Friend,

It gives me pleasure to introduce to your acquaintance & Christian courtesy our young Cherokee friend, Mr. Lovely Rogers.

Mr. Rogers is a gentleman of irreproachable character and of a highly respectable family in his own nation. If not decidedly pious, is a gentleman of much moral worth. You will love to do him good - He is about to open a store among his people. Can anything be said or done to prevent this people trading on the Sabbath. Do you know, at the East, how this day is profaned in our own Christian country? Are the far west to be left to perish? Let Dr. Beecher live here, & tell me, if the Millenium is near. Such men are kept in the garden of Christian influence, while poor weak handed Christians are sent to this desert of moral influence to labour alone.

Yours in the best of bonds,

Sophia Sawyer

(Notes: Dr. Henry Ward Beecher was pastor of Plymouth Congregational Church at Brooklyn, New York, at this time.

John Ridge and agent, William Childers, went to New York during March to purchase supplies for the Honey Creek Store.)

(Letter 321)

Honey Creek, May 26, 1839

Rev. David Greene

Dear Sir:

Your letter in reply to mine of Dec. came to hand two days since. It is just the thing I needed, though in my present situation, I have not much occasion to seek excitement, for, with my temperament, if I could in patience possess my soul, patience would have its perfect work.

My school is composed of such a variety of character & improvement that I teach my pupils almost individually, classing them only in certain branches where all can meet on common ground.

I wish I could now say just what I wish to you, Sir, & no more, as you do to me. Two persons from the old Nation of wealth & influence have invited me to come into their families, promising me, as the voice of their districts from 25 to 30 girls for scholars. Will build good houses such as I shall direct for instruction & sustain the school, allowing me to call the poor & untaught under my instruction. We have three girls from one of these places now with us, only twelve miles from here; the other place is two days ride from us, **South** - the very spot I should choose, in the vicinity of Dwight, about three hours ride from Dr. Pal's. The family with whom I should reside are tried acquaintances, by having had their

children for pupils in the old nation - then many of my Cherokee friends are there. But I have ties here not easily broken. The critical situation of the Nation, etc I cannot communicate. I thought I would just bid them wait until this term closes; & let Mr. Washburn, Mr. Worcester & Mr. Ridge decide for me. My feelings are contending for all the places. Do not mention this to any missionary except Mr. Worcester, it is such a time of excitement, & I am always getting into trouble. Should my refering it to these gentlemen meet your wishes you can write Mr. Worcester, but I beg he would not speak of it, as I cannot move in any direction without noise. The atmosphere of the old nation, in its most disturbed state, compared with this was like the peaceful lake to the bosterous (sic) ocean.

Mr. Ridge received your letter. I wrote late Sat. eve. to send tomorrow by Mr. Wheeler. Mr. & Mrs. Ridge received your remembrance to them, kindly would send theirs did they know I was writing. If you can read this, you will forgive bad writing, let me sleep rather than copy it.

S. Sawyer

P. S. Please to remember me affectionately to Mrs. Greene & all your family also to Mr. & Mrs. Wilder, if they are still near you. Tell them Swart's Life, which they gave me has strengthened me much in my labors of late. O for that love that sicketh not its own, that he manifested. If I had faith & was not selfish I should be happy. Shall I ever awake in his likeness. I must stop it is late.

S. S.

I wish Mr. Rogers could visit Mr. Wilder's. Their flower garden & (etc.?)

(Notes: John F. Wheeler opened the first Cherokee type in Jan. 1828 and was printer for the first issue of the Cherokee Phoenix in New Echota. He came to the Cherokee Nation West in 1834, went first to Union Mission, and then in 1837 to Park Hill. In 1847 he settled at Van Buren, worked on the Intelligencer there, and moved to Fort Smith where he edited the Fort Smith Herald. In 1831 he was arrested with Dr. Worcester by Georgia authorities and kept in jail. He was sentenced to four years imprisonment but pardoned when he promised to leave Georgia.

Miss Sawyer and Mrs. John Ridge and children came to Fayetteville July 1, 1839, according to an article quoted by Mrs. Carolyn Foreman in "Chronicles of Oklahoma, Vol. 32, No. 4, pages 395-413". It was not until October, three months after the Ridge and Boudinot assassinations that Miss Sawyer could find time to write her mentor.)

(Letter 322)
 Rev. David Greene
 Very Dear Friend,

Fayetteville, Oct. 16, 1839

I cannot address you in this time of trial in the cold business language of air when no other human being can or will feel with us as you do & will in the relation you sustain towards me. I thank you for the letter of August which I received five days since. In that you express uncertainty respecting my situation to offer your sympathy in several supposable cases, for this we thank you, & truly rejoice with you in the fact that with Eternal Rectitude all is safety & comfort. My feelings have made me uneasy respecting my future labors, but judgment & principle are always satisfied. I know it is as easy to do my duty in one situation as in another, because our gracious master requires nothing but what he will give us power to perform. Duty is ours & care is his.

You have probably learned from other pens much that has transpired in this family. I left the nation with Mrs. Ridge, the children & a part of the servants a few days after the murder of her husband. Mrs. Ridge was sustained under the overwhelming affliction, & had not an influence been exerted by interested persons to have her leave the nation, urging as reasons that herself and children were in danger, I should have succeeded in keeping the family & school together. This I did for several days after Mr. Ridge's death, but when I saw her sinking under the weight of sorrow - fearful apprehensions, & **undecided** anxieties, I consented to leave for this town as the nearest place of safety & accommodation. Here I have been doing, as it respects vigorous effort, what I could for her children & those associated with them in school.

I have not been patient or humble, but I have stood firm amidst the destructive influences & tendencies which had well nigh crushed Mrs. Ridge & made her children twice orphans. They are a most lovely interesting family, & I bless God that I was permitted to return to them & show my gratitude to the departed father by care of his bereft offspring. The last favor that I sought of Mr. Ridge was his influence to prevent any among 36 of my pupils attending a show which I knew would exert a bad moral influence. This he granted solely to gratify me two days before his death & not a pupil was absent except from sickness during the scene which was happening at the store. My wants & wishes were consulted before he left for New York, & that evening before he was killed I saw and received the globes & books, & the last words he spoke to me amidst the crowd of business & people were to inquire if the books were such as I wished. We returned to the dwelling house, the girls & myself took an early supper, & went to our house beyond the sound of the shrieks of the murdered, which, before the dawn were to fill with unutterable woe the

peaceful dwelling that we left at evening. But I forbear - I dare not dwell on the past nor do I allow any over whom I have influence to waste their energies in fruitless sorrow. Our business is with the living & the world lieth in wickedness. I wish I could sit near you for a single day & pour into your ear the moral condition of this western world, & let you proclaim it to the eastern churches. Is it possible, I sometimes speak out by myself that the Church is spending her energies about questions in theology & suffering error & infidelity to prevail at the west without one enlightened devoted servant of Christ to chasten the madness of western enthusiasm. Where is the religion of our forefathers? Who performs the unobtrusive everyday duties of life? What is our country coming to as it regards its civil institutions to say nothing of religion. I wish Dr. Beecher would come here & tell us when & where the millenium is to commence? What are all the educated preachers doing? Where are they? It is easy to come together in your large meetings & congratulate each other with what has been done, but are not the sober realities of our moral atmosphere forgotten, even in our own country to say nothing of the heathen world? Sit here where men are hung without law or trial, & hear life threatened by the drunkard with the instrument of death in his hands, on the ground where others have been killed, & the murderer stalking abroad, & to whom is not denied the curtesies of life, & learn the value of that religion, that worketh no ill to its neighbor, & which secures to its possessor divine protection, that can give peace amidst surrounding danger.

Last eve. Mrs. Ridge returned from Park Hill more disheartened with the Indians than ever - I felt this morning that if I could escape eternally from them I would go where I might not hear of their suffering & degradation. This I cannot do - they seem a part of my very existence & we must meet at the judgment, sufficient unto the day is the evil. They are calling me to the nation, but so much disunion I fear almost to go should Mrs. Ridge decide to leave. I have consented to go to Flint however, if they build a school house & support a female school - this they propose to do. I am trying to do good here & relieve my patrons at Boston entirely of my support - How I shall succeed I know not - house rent is high & accommodations poor. Without recommendation, character or influence I have succeeded thus far beyond my expectations. When the term closes I shall know whether I am sustained by anything except by the attendance of a large & difficult school - If I am faithful you know God will take care for me. He has told me not to seek what the Gentiles (?) seek. Forgive this scrawl - my hands are full & my mind crowded with little things. 29th Oct. Monday Evening. The synod of the Cumberland Presbyterians have just left us after several days preaching. I have attended what I

could without neglecting my pupils & home duties, Mrs. Ridge being confined to her bed most of her time since her return to the nation. She was attacked mildly with the bilious fever & I urged a Physician that she might not only get present relief but have her diseased liver attended to so that her system might be invigorated & she obtain permanent health. She is now under the care of two of the best physicians in this country - she is now able to sit up & attends with cheerfulness to such care & labor as her strength will allow. To her children her life is above all prize (sic) - though she should always be feeble & broken. I am kept alive & vigorous by exertion. My present number of scholars is 32. The Sabbath school rests on me entirely for constant & prompt (?) attendance. O how much we need proper teaching here. I do believe the truth has been preached here, but such noise & confusion as often compelled me to leave the house such was the nervous excitement. One sermon on the final prevalence of the gospel at the communion has given me great strength & comfort I looked away from the eastern Churches to Jesus.

Yours,

S. Sawyer

Mrs. Ridge is gratified with your sympathy & thanks you for your prayers. She rejoices in the hope that you will not cease to pray for us.

(Notes: In December John Rollin Ridge is the letter writer with a post-script by Miss Sawyer. The school is in full operation but the traumatic experiences are still fresh in the mind of the 13-year-old boy, whose family always called him Rollin.)

(Letter 323)

Fayetteville, Dec. 7, 1839

Rev. David Greene,

Missionary Rooms, Boston

Dear Friend,

We came to Fayetteville on account of my father's death. When he was killed my mother was so disturbed (sic) that some of us were fearful that she would not live under it. She heard so much about the nation while she was there, which distressed her that she was obliged to come away. Since we have been here mamma went to the nation to see my cousins & aunt before they started to the east. When she came back she fell sick, & was not able to walk about the room. Two Physicians attended on her, & she is now getting better. I think she will soon be well. I do not know much about the nation but I think it is in a confused state. Gen. Arbuckle the commander at Fort Gibson is trying to take the murderers, but I do not think he will make out because it needs a more energetic man than he is to perform it.

Miss Sawyer has a school in this town. She has about thirty scholars,

the most of whom are boys. My sister, brothers & myself are going to her school. I have gone through Ancient Geography & the Ancient History of Greece. I am now going over Modern Geography again, & I am studying Arithmetic & definitions & we have paid some attention to grammar. I am learning to play on the flute. My sister studies Modern Geography, Arithmetic & definitions. Miss Sawyer will close the 20th of this month & will begin again the third Monday in January. Mr. Rettig the man who is teaching me to play on the flute is from the higher class in Germany, & a very learned man. His wife is from the higher class in Switzerland, & is a fine painter. Miss Sawyer & Susan my sister think of learning to paint of her. Mrs. Rettig has the promise of twenty two scholars in learning to paint. There is another school in this town; but it is for girls. The lady who teaches is from Europe. Her name is Mrs. Dixon. She has a good many scholars.

In this town there are three groceries & the people sometimes fight with knives & pistols, & some men have been killed here, but the people do not seem to mind it much. In this town there are two saddler shops, two tailor shops - three blacksmith shops - one silversmith, one gunsmith, eight stores, & two taverns & a good many other houses. There are several carpenters & cabinet workmen (sic) in this town. There are also several lawyers & they have a good deal of business. This town is a county seat.

The climate is various in this country. It is sometimes cold one day & the next warm. In the Summer it is very warm, in the Winter very cold.

There are a great many animals in this state. The principal of which are deer, wolves, wild cats, foxes, rabbits, opossums, rakkoons (sic), squirrels, pole cats & a great many other small animals. There are some panthers, a few bears, a great many wild turkeys, wild chickens, patridges (sic), & a great many other fowls. In the nation there are a good many animals, but very wild on account of the Indians hunting them so much. I have seen some animals in the nation, which the white people call gophers, but I have never heard the Cherokees call their names, & I do not think they have any name for them. They are very much like the mole, but they have pockets on each side of their heads with which they carry any thing they want. They live under the ground in winding holes in which they keep their provisions. They stay under ground all winter & make their appearance in the spring again. Their food is corn, & the stocks in vegetables. There are a great number in the prairies. Where they make their habitations there is a large pile of dirt, which they root up. Sometimes I see so many habitations near together that they look like a little village. Some panthers have been killed in town, & great many have been killed in the state. Some panthers have passed through this town.

Thursday, 19, 1839

There is a church in this town, which I forgot to name when I told about the houses. There is also a post & stage office.

Please to write to Miss Sawyer & the scholars & encourage us in the pursuit of useful knowledge, & please to tell me of the faults in my letter. Give my love to David Greene & tell him that I should be very glad to receive a letter from him.

From your young friend,

John Rollin Ridge

Aged 13 years (this is written in another handwriting)

(The following letter was written on the same piece of paper as J. R. Ridge's.)

Cain Hill Sta., Dec. 27, 1839

Dear Sir,

I am now on my way to Col. Adair's in Flint, Cherokee Nation, where I expect to spend a few days, & see what is best to be done respecting a school. My school has prospered at Fayetteville far beyond my expectations. All at the close paid cheerfully, expressing much gratitude for my — — success, etc. There was a school established there however when we came. The teacher is not pleased & I wish to be where none can injure for doing well.

The country is in a very undesirable situation respecting its civil institutions - yesterday another man was hung here without trial except by a committee chosen on the spot. Only last Monday he was brought here & died without compassion (?). The last words he spoke were '(I am clean before God & man of the crime accused.)'

Mrs. Ridge is restored to health & usefulness in her family. I am strong & healthy.

S. Sawyer

(Note: Delight Sargent Boudinot, second wife of Elias Boudinot, took her children, including Elias C. Boudinot, who later studied law under A. M. Wilson, to the East after Boudinot's assassination.)

(Letter 324)

Fayetteville, Monday January 6, 1840

Rev. David Greene

Mission House, Boston

You know, dear sir, there is a point in the character of nations & individuals beyond which, in our intercourse with them, forbearance becomes a crime. This boundary of character I pointed out to the Cherokees in my late visit to the nation, & told them plainly, that unless they became settled & set about in good earnest to help themselves by building a house for instruction, such as would tend to facilitate my labors, I

should not return to them - that their expressions of affection & gratitude; & the high estimate they said they gave my labor were gratifying to my feelings, but could not be received as a substitute for bettering their condition. When I heard of their suffering & death by removal, & saw them sitting about in their new country with their blankets drawn closely around them looking for sympathy, I replied, we have all wept enough about national & individual suffering, there are more left than can be taught, and in other respects provided for, you have now reached a permanent residence - **go to work** & build houses & cultivate your land - talk no more about little huts with wood chimneys, but let your houses be such as will make suitable homes for your daughters, & your school-house such as shall tell to all around "**We are helping ourselves.**" I told them, if I could handle the axe, I would come to their aid, that I would come to their aid, that I was now laboring to obtain such things as would facilitate my instructions when I could hope to become a successful teacher in their nation - pointed them to my past efforts & asked "What good have I done you?" I told them of the nations sitting in darkness, & of the pecuniary state of our benevolent societies, that it was not my patrons, who withheld support when I was doing no good; but my moral feelings forbade me to draw money from them to help those, who were abundantly able to help themselves, adding, I would not take one dollar from your charity school funds but increase them tenfold, but let all go, I entreat you, to instruct & elevate the dark past of your nation. They apparently acceded to my views & wishes, & promised, not only to build houses for my accommodation, & give me present support, but something to lay by for future need, & to let me select from poor orphans, a young child to train as my own. On these conditions I promised to return to them, should not providential circumstances give my labors another direction. These were **Ross men** and feared to have me see the **Treaty party**, lest I should be discouraged from laboring among them. This I inferred (sic) from conversation with individuals. On my return, however, I visited, by Mrs. Ridge's request, Mr. Washington Adair, a treaty man & a warm friend of Mr. Ridge. Mr. Adair is a professor of religion & of unblemished character - is doing much for the education of his family & neighbors. In the same neighborhood I visited Mr. Reece, now a treaty man; he advised me not to go to the Ross party, & rejoiced that I had not seen Mr. Butrick to be **influenced** - thought he (Mr. Reece) could exert an influence equal to establish a district school near, where I could be more away from scenes of dissipation than in the Ross district. I expressed my willingness to go where I could, probably, do most to improve the moral & intellectual condition of the people. Thus, Sir, I have tried to give you some idea of the circumstances & feelings of the Cherokee. You doubtless

hear by those who are constantly with them, & who are better able to judge in such matters.

We thank you, dear Sir, for your kind & judicious letter, which reached us yesterday, and so exactly accorded with our views respecting my present & future labors. Mrs. Ridge is wonderfully restored in body & mind, though she seems to feel as keenly as ever her affliction when it comes before her, but it does not now absorb all her thoughts & feelings. She is roused to vigorous & judicious effort for her children & servants, and remembers she is not her own. When she first began to emerge from overwhelming grief she complained to me that her faculties were destroyed, that she could not remember common things at all, that she should never be able to take care of her family. I told her the scene had been overwhelming, she would rise from it by degrees, the vigor of life was not thus to be crushed while so many motives for live & action remained. Skillful physicians were near & the tender & judicious sympathy of some friends did much to bring her back to the enjoyments of home & domestic duties.

Her brother, who lately came to this country, died of a bilious fever a few months after Mr. Ridge was murdered, his wife and child who have since been with us, left yesterday, so your sympathy, that met Mrs. Ridge's feelings so harmoniously, comforted & sustained her broken heart.

From Rollin's letter you know something of what we are doing. In my labors here I often think of what the senior Dr. Payson used to say to me "Your nerves ought to be iron on steel, Sophia." I try to control myself that I may not fail in my school. Pray for me that I may not live in vain.

Jan. 18

Since writing the above circumstances & the united advice of friends here, & from the nation has led Mrs. Ridge to decide to purchase a home for herself & children near this town, & remain here for the present, provided I promise to remain with her. All other prospects for the instruction of her children, such as she would choose, being so precarious that she could not think of remaining here without me; & her affairs are in such a situation she cannot go to a free state for the present; & to return to the nation in their present state of anarchy would be death to her **peace of mind**, & consequently the children would lose the watchful care, in some respects of one of the best mothers. Pupils from every direction are coming under my influence now, & individuals of talent & standing are urging our stay, propesying (sic) a better state of society. On the other hand the call from the nation from the **treaty party** in some respects is inviting & did not friends from both parties bring their children to me here, & some of our best friends of the treaty party advise us to remain here for the present I believe my pity for the poor afflicted

nation would hasten me to go to them & do **what I could**. All things considered, we conclude to remain & I expect to open school here next Mon. knowing that my ability to teach is overrated by all who are calling for my instruction & of course that I shall disappoint friends & gratify those who are watching for my halting. Pray that I may obtain the testimony that Enoch obtained, that "I please God."

Sophia Sawyer

20th Mrs. Ridge desires a kind remembrance to yourself & family. Do send me the M. Herald. Should opportunity present send Emerson's Union Catechism also his Minor Historical Catechism. They would not be above all price in the S. school here. Several — — — of each I will pay the Missionaries for them.

(Notes: Daniel S. Butrick, missionary, served with the Cherokees at Brainerd and was assigned to Dwight Mission in 1839.

Dr. Payson, father of Dr. Edward Payson, who took Miss Sawyer into his home and she remained with him until qualified to enter the Female School of the Rev. Joseph Emerson at Byfield, Mass.)

Fayetteville, February 15, 1840

Rev. David Greene
Mission House, Boston
Dear Sir,

I have just time to introduce to your acquaintance and Christian courtesy Mr. Evans, a gentleman of high standing and respectability in this state; and a friend to whom Mrs. Ridge and myself are much indebted for kind offices. The interest you both feel in making the world better, will bring you near in sympathy; and your enlarged views of benevolent effort, will make you forget sectional, or sectarian, prepossessions in your intercourse with each other.

Do send me, for the use of this school, the Youth's Companion. I hope to be able and more than able, to pay the Board all we spend here in books, etc. We expect twelve pupils from the Nation, and I have also engaged to take a poor orphan to train up for Christ. For a while I doubted, lest sickness or some revers of fortune should prevent my carrying through my **plan** - the example of parents, however, decided me to go forward, I hope trusting in the orphan's God. Should I fail, the child can only return to the heathenism from which she is taken. The other Cherokees are able to sustain the expense of education.

Very affectionately yours, in the gospel.

S. Sawyer

Should you fail to go to Boston please to put this in the mail . . .

(Note: Mr. Evans was probably Lewis Evans, although Onesmus Evans was prominent here during this time and was postmaster during 1841.)

Fayetteville, April 3rd, 1840

Rev. David Greene
Missionary Rooms, Boston
Dear Friend,

Miss Sawyer says that you would be interested to hear from the school. She has, at this time, 47 scholars. I am studying fractions of Oral Arithmetic, Grammar, Definitions of words; and I expect to study Mattebrun's Geography, besides reading and writing, I have just finished my ancient geography. Miss Sawyer still keeps sabbath school, and has a great many scholars, she has upwards of 15 in the Bible class, she has four Cherokee girls, who came up from the nation a few days ago, and I expect they will attend the sabbath school, they are now studying Mattebrun's Geography, Grammar, reading and writing, one of them, grammar, and Parley's Little Geography. The school will be out about the 1st day of July, that is if we can keep the house in which Miss Sawyer is teaching until that time. There is another school in this town, but it is a female school, the lady that teaches has not near as many scholars as Miss Sawyer, her name is Mrs. C. Dixon, she came from Tennessee to this place and opened school and has been teaching all the time she has been here. Yesterday Miss Sawyer had sabbath school and there was a great many scholars here, and there were several people who came in to here us recite our lessons. My father and mother live in this town, I have one sister who goes to school to that lady which I was telling you taught a female school. She is studying Geography, Dictionary, grammar and arithmetic, besides reading and writing. She reads very well, and can write almost as good a hand as I can, she has been going to school to Mrs. Dixon all the time she has been here. I have told you all about the school that I know of at present. I will now tell you something about the country, the western part of the country in which we live is a very fine country. The land in some parts is very good, and in places rocky and mountainous, and there are a great many animals here. The weather in this country is very changeable, Miss Sawyer complains a great deal of being unwell and a great many people here have the ague and fever. There will be court here the next week and I expect there will be a great many people in town. There are three groceries and eight stores in this town and two taverns, two taylor's shops, three clocksmiths shops here and one silversmith shop, and there are a great many carpenters here, and several lawyers in this town who have a great many cases to manage. The people are not put-

ting up a good many buildings here, a printing office, a jail and a Masonic hall, in the lower part of this hall will be a school room.

They are building several frame and log dwelling houses besides.

This week there is court here and Miss Sawyer had to leave the room in which she was teaching and moved into a smaller room; she has a very full school and we are very much crowded. This evening the class in grammar tried to form three nouns in the possessive case, one in the singular number and two plural nouns, one forming its plural by the addition of S and the other without the addition of S. Now I'll try to write three in the possessive case such as bird's nest — women's clocks — girls' bonnets.

April 21st 1840

Last Friday evening two more Cherokee girls came up from the nation and their uncle was trying to get board for them. Today our class in geography had to recite a long lesson about the state of Connecticut, and none of us knew it perfectly but one of the Cherokee girls who is in the class, and I was very much ashamed and I determined I would get it before I went at anything else. There are thirteen scholars in the grammar class and twenty three in the definition class and seven in geography class and twenty four writers, eight who read in Natural history, all boys, eleven young ladies who read in the first book of history.

From your young friend

Enis Combs Trimble

(Note: E. C. Trimble went on to become a teacher in the Fayetteville Female Seminary.)

Sat. May 1, 1840

Rev. David Greene

Dear Sir,

Here I am with 51 pupils of every age and character in this land of crime and outlaw where I am met at every turn "such and such" things are popular, you cannot go against the current, men of high standing and popular among the people let their private character or rather notorious vices, be what they may. They wish me to pass over and allow the female pupils to associate with such characters. What is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God; I reply, I must decide respecting the company the pupils keep in the absence of their parents. Just in the trying hours of preparation to go where even the females of the family were of a doubtful character the fathers came and referred it entirely to me so this lady, where they board will have no more power to take these dear girls into improper company. Pardon me, dear sir, for

this detail, the pupils are Cherokees. You must sympathize and pray for me. I often inquire why a poor, weak, sensitive female is thus left to stem the current alone. Where, again I enquire, are our talented preachers? that this ground is left unoccupied until vice shall have become so deep rooted that years of labor will be necessary to do what months could effect now. O for one enlightened intelligent Christian to come and aid in our monthly review, on the Sabbath. The Bible class. I have sometimes invited criticisms and referred doubtful questions to clergymen present until I became alarmed that the pupils would be led into error. Now I am careful not to explain anything doubtful myself and not invite explanations. Mrs. Ridge has purchased a home in this town and I am aiding her in training her children. The changing weather affects me very unfavorably but I cannot yield to disease with so much in my hands. We have a kind physician next who is my friend and his counsel does good like a medicine. Do not cease to feel with me because I came here. The world is the field.

S. Sawyer

Fayetteville August 28
Friday, 1840

Rev. David Greene
Mission House, Boston
Dear Sir,

Dr. Johnson says of Pope's letters that they were solicitations of the imagination because vanity or ceremony required something to be written. However I may be guilty of this with regard to others, my letters to you must be discharges of the heart overflowing with interesting labors and pursuits.

I had just made arrangements for a future place of instruction and engaged a house and board for the next session of our school when yours of July was handed me. The letter contains just such advice as I need, and as I do hope to be able to practise next session. How is it, I often enquire mentally, that Mr. Greene knows so exactly how to counsel me at this distance? Do continue your counsel and prayers. I may hereafter be able to make some return to you or yours. If not, God will reward you. I have entered into arrangements and responsibilities new to me, but seem driven into them by Providential circumstances. Have purchased materials for building 28 by 20 two stories. I have not done this, however, without gentlemen who have acted for me, and in every step given me assurance that the property purchased would always sell under the hammer for what I gave. My object in doing this was to secure an absolute

control of my school and free myself from the dictation of contributors. Esq. Walker, a gentleman at the head of the bar in this country, witnessing the difficulties of my situation; and choosing to sustain me in the moral discipline of my pupils has stepped forward with his influence and \$150 of land in any part of town or around it, that I choose to locate. This, with the help of others will give me power to go forward. My friends, though not numerous here, are persons of character and moral worth. We have just selected the ground. The house will stand elevated overlooking a beautiful valley, mountain and woodland seen in the distance. The area is sufficiently large for flowers, shrubbery and fruit trees.

When I left school I was completely exhausted and fled from the exciting influences here, not knowing what I could do. Wicked men cursing me at the groceries, though always **meeting me** respectfully. I feared the few, who wished me to remain, would not have moral courage to sustain me.

No lumber, no land, etc. yet at the very time I need this house was ready to raise and so the owners so anxious to sell that we obtained it at cost. Esq. Walker and Mr. Shepperd, the latter with whom the Cherokees and I boarded the last session; just stepped between me and the difficulties and have put me in a way to do good in this vicinity. Mrs. W. and Mrs. S. are among the most accomplished and agreeable ladies of the country. They are not pious, however, neither are their husbands, and they have come so kindly and so generously to my relief, that I must guard against their influence, lest I yield principle in our social intercourse with the people. Places of amusement are multiplied among the most pernicious and tempting of which is the theatre, brought here from Little Rock and opened every night except Sab. under our school room, the scholars passing almost every hour of the day while stage players were practising. The theatre is now fixed under the name of a Thespian Society. I have been urged to go myself or suffer my female pupils to visit without me the most chastened of these amusements and to mingle (?) in society, to say the least, of a doubtful character. The rigid course I felt obliged to take I knew the best of the people censured in their feelings at least, but the awful disclosures of **adultery** that were made here during my absence, will I hope teach parents and guardians to take care of the young and help to fix the boundary of good and bad society.

Last Tuesday a man was murdered on the square in a grocery by the same Riley Wallace, who stunned him last summer and whom Willis Wallace stabbed while apparently dead. After recovery this man made friends with Willis W. but now referred to the abuse and in the irritable language of a drunken man replied to Riley W. when he fired and missed,

then struck with the pistol and, on the man's retreat stabbed on the back, the knife passing the right side into a bone so firmly that Wallace braced himself by his foot and twice with his whole force before releasing the knife, such had been the power of the fatal thrust. As he coolly walked off his brother, whom some person held from joining in the murder, called to him to finish, when he raised the knife showing the depth of the blade covered with blood saying "He has enough, I have done it." No citizen approached the murderer and he soon disappeared, but his brother, who urged the deed, walks about bidding defiance, saying, "If they wish to take me let them try." Esq. Pollock, who was killed, has left a wife and seven children in indigence. His wife not in a situation to come even to see him, so he was carried by us the next day following by a few citizens to the grave. You will forgive this detail. They are bone of our bone and flesh as human beings; besides this State is a part, an interesting part, of our **Union**. Violence, bloodshed, and intrigue will be here until after the election we fear. The Church and preachers seeking office.

Sep. Friday, 4th: Next Monday we hope to open school with more cheering prospects. My health has improved though still much affected by this changing climate and the exciting influence of the moral and social atmosphere to say nothing of the constant confinement of the drudgery of teaching first principles. I felt when I left school like setting fire to all the materials of our school room and going out of sight of land to find rest on the boundless ocean; instead of this, judgment and principle forced me to take care of every book and material for teaching by sending them to different places where they could be received until a school room should be found. Tomorrow we hope to enter a new convenient house at \$15 dollars rent, per month, until ours is finished. Mr. Worcester is here on business—his and this family well.

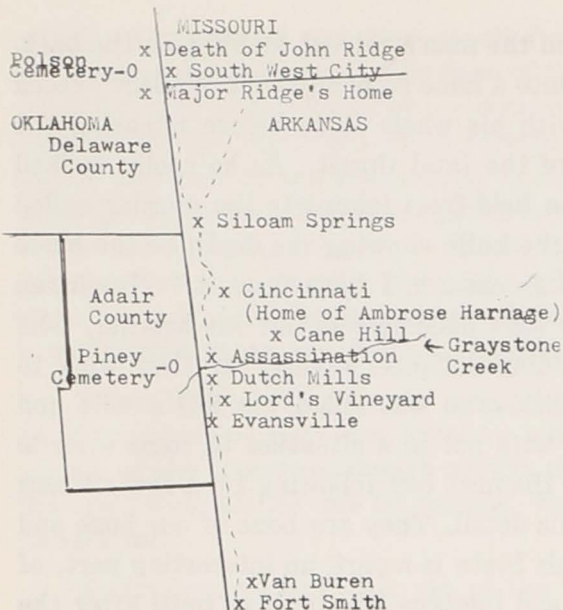
Yours in Christ

S. Sawyer

(Notes: Esquire David Walker, prominent attorney, Supreme Court Judge, was an early settler of Fayetteville.

J. M. Shepperd purchased the Ridge House from M. H. Clark and sold it to Mrs. Ridge.

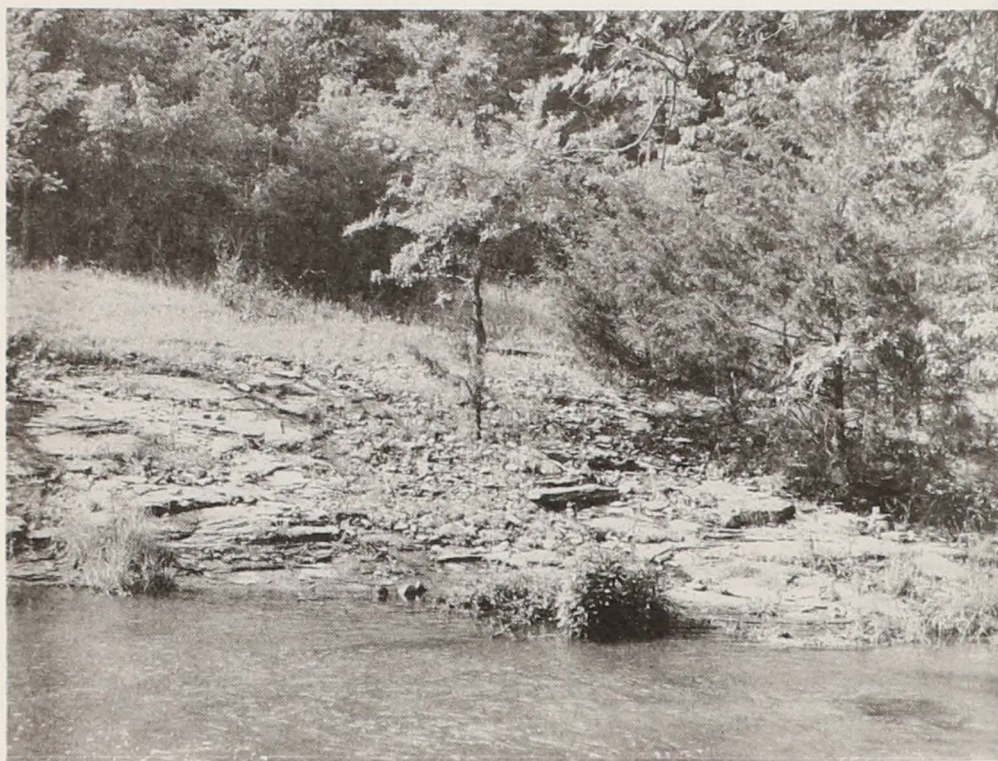
For more information on the Pollock murder, see pp. 27-31 of Jan. 1956 FLASHBACK.)



Note: Approximately 60 miles from Major Ridge's Home to Dutch Mills.

Below is a photo of the site where Major Ridge was assassinated, on property now owned by D. A. King. The spring where Major Ridge stopped to water his horse is located southeast (not in picture). Picture looks toward area where assassins were concealed. Mr. King said Mrs. Ralph Shreve had also identified the spring as the assassination site.

The map at left traces his trip and shows approximate location of his first and second burial places.



The Death and Disposition of Major Ridge

By T. L. Ballenger

The Ridge family, along with several of their friends, became prominent in Cherokee history before their removal to their western home. When the state of Georgia pressed for the removal of the Cherokees and President Jackson approved this request, the Ridges, like the rest of the Cherokees resisted this pressure against their right of occupancy of the territory they had held long before the state of Georgia ever came into existence.¹ But when the Ridges became convinced of the inevitability of maintaining their rights against political forces beyond their control, they decided that the Cherokees might do better by submitting to the inevitable and removing west of the Mississippi where they might reestablish an independent nation, free from outside interference. This decision brought them into conflict with the Ross element who insisted, for one reason or another, on staying where they were, whether or no.

The Ridges and their friends signed the treaty of 1835 providing for the removal of the Cherokees to the west. The Ross party refused to sign this treaty but the Federal Government construed it to be legal, nevertheless, and forced the Cherokees to abide by it. This brought tense friction between the Ridge faction, or "treaty party," and the Ross faction, commonly known as the "anti-treaty party." One group of Cherokees, comprising approximately one-third of the total number, had moved to western Arkansas in 1818 and then moved into the Indian Territory in 1828. They were commonly known as the "Old Settlers." This group, with their capital at Tah-lon-tee-skee near the mouth of the Illinois River, had a regular government already in operation when the immigrant group arrived in the spring of 1839.

The "Old Settler" Cherokees welcomed the newcomers and invited them to fit themselves into their government and become a part of it. But John Ross, knowing full well that his group constituted a clear majority of the entire tribe, demanded that they have a general meeting, reorganize the government, and elect a new set of officers by popular vote.

Hence, it was for this purpose that a general meeting of all the Cherokees was assembled at Double Springs (Tahkatokah), some six

¹A good account of the Ridge family can be found in Thurman Wilkins' *Cherokee Tragedy, the Story of the Ridge Family*, New York, Macmillan, 1970.

miles northwest of Tahlequah, in early June, 1839. They wrangled here for several days over the formation of a new government but were unable to agree. They did, however, agree to hold another meeting, to begin July first, at the Illinois Camp Ground, a mile and a half southeast of Tahlequah, to continue their efforts toward union. On Saturday morning, June 22, 1839, Elias Boudinot, Major Ridge, and his son John Ridge were all assassinated in cold blood.

Tradition has it that the ones assigned to kill these people met at Peach Eaters Creek, between Proctor and Christie, the night before the murders to perfect plans for the killings. Here they decided which ones would be responsible for each massacre by the process of drawing straws. The one exception to this procedure was that, by agreement, Doublehead should have the privilege of assisting in the killing of Major Ridge because he accused Major Ridge of killing his father back in Georgia.

As is commonly known, Elias Boudinot was killed near the Worcester Mission at Park Hill. The three men assigned to kill him went to where he was working on a new house near the mission and told him they wanted medicine for their sick children. Boudinot had to go to the mission for medicine. On the way, when they were in an isolated clump of timber, they stabbed and tomahawked him to death. Early that same morning, John Ridge was dragged from his home near Honey Creek, in the northeastern part of the Cherokee Nation, and brutally stabbed to death.²

Major Ridge had hired one of his negro slaves to John Latta at "The Lord's Vineyard" near Evansville, Arkansas for temporary work. This negro slave was ill and Major Ridge was on his way down there to see about him.

John Latta originally was from South Carolina. On his way to the west he stopped for a year or two in Tennessee, then came to this isolated region in western Arkansas, arriving here in 1834. Here he established a general plantation and industrial plant. Being of a religious nature he called his establishment "The Lord's Vineyard." A postoffice was established here later under the name of Vineyard. Some of Latta's slaves were skilled in furniture, cabinet, and wagon making. He had his own blacksmith and furniture shop where the negro slaves shod the horses and made plows and other farm and household implements. He built a two-story hewn log residence and a commodious log barn. It was a self-supporting unit far out on the frontier. From this pioneer family

² A more detailed account of this whole period of factionalism among the Cherokees can be found in Morris L. Wardell, *A Political History of the Cherokee Nation*, University of Oklahoma Press, 1938, pp. 15-43; Grant Foreman, *The Five Civilized Tribes*, pp. 291-310; Emmet Starr, *History of the Cherokee Indians*, pp. 106-119.

has sprung a number of prominent social and economic leaders of western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma. Descendants of the family still live in this region. It was to this plantation that Major Ridge was headed on that June morning of 1839 when he met his untimely death at the hands of his assassins.

On the day before his death the Major rode down from his home on Honey Creek and stayed all night with his friend, Ambrose Harnage, at Cincinnati, Arkansas.³ His assassins, of course, kept close track of his every movement. On the morning of his assassination he was riding down the Old Line road and, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, stopped at Graystone Creek for his horse to drink. This was just a few feet off present Highway 59, two miles north of Dutch Mills, Arkansas. The assassins, who had kept in close contact with him, were concealed in the woods along a sloping hillside overlooking this creek crossing. Evidently they knew about what time he would reach this point and that he would likely pause here for his horse to drink. His body was pierced with five bullets though his horse was not touched.

He was buried in the Piney Cemetery, about five miles from the place of his death, which was the closest burial place in the Cherokee Nation. Here his remains rested until after the Civil War. About 1868, they were taken up and re-interred in the Polson Cemetery, two and a half miles west of Southwest City, Missouri, in the Cherokee Nation. Major Ridge's son John, who was killed at his home less than a half mile from this cemetery, was buried here. The Polsons, the Ridges, the Wasburns, and some of the Waties were buried here. These families were all related.

The Ridge, as he was called in Government documents, did service in the United States army against the Creek Indians, fighting under General Andrew Jackson. He did valiant service here and this is where he obtained the rank of Major. About 1935, largely through the influence of Miss Eula E. Fullerton, who was then Professor of Oklahoma History in Northeastern State College at Tahlequah, Oklahoma, the United States Secretary of War sent to the College a marker to be placed at the grave of Major Ridge. So far as is known, no marker was placed at the grave where he was originally buried, nor was his grave marked when his remains were removed to the Polson Cemetery. There was perhaps a reason for this. John Ridge's grave was not marked; no inscription was placed on the stone at Beaudinot's grave. The hatred between the two Cherokee factions was so tense at this time that possibly these families thought it best to leave the burial places as inconspicuous as possible.

³ Foreman, *Five Civilized Tribes*, p. 293.

The instructions of the War Department were to place the marker at his grave if the exact site was known. If not, then to place it at the most likely site attainable.

Hence, diligent search was begun to find Ridge's burial place. Miss Fullerton and I searched rather thoroughly over a good part of eastern Oklahoma and western Arkansas until we were satisfied as to the approximate location of his burial place. First we found his original burial site. Then we found an elderly woman who remembered seeing people come to the Piney Cemetery, dig up Ridge's remains, and take them north. This was about 1868, according to her statement. She could not tell us where the remains were taken. Some of the Adairs and other old-timers of the Piney community verified this report of the removal of the Ridge remains. According to the curator of the Piney Cemetery the grave site remained open until about 1935, then was filled up and the ground leveled off.

Taking into consideration the known facts about the assassination, the original burial, the exhumation, the burial site of other members of the family, and an abundance of related evidence, it was our judgment that Major Ridge's final resting place is in the Polson Cemetery, and that is where the Government marker was placed. A more elaborate marker has later been erected at his grave by members of the family, though the marker we put there has also been retained.

- wchs -

The Historical Society needs the following FLASHBACKS for its file:

1951, Volume 1 - No. 2 April, 3 May, 4 June-July, 5 August-September and 6 November.

1952, Volume 2 - No. 3 May, 4 July, 6 December.

1953, Volume 3 - No. 1 February, 2 March, 3 April, 4 May, 5 August, 6 October.

1954, Volume 4 - No. 2 March, 3 May, 4 July.

1956, Volume 6 - No. 1 January, 3 May, 4 July, 5 September.

1957, Volume 7 - No. 3 May.

If you have them and no longer need them, we would be most grateful if you'd send them to us at P. O. Box 357, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701.

Old Circuit Court Records

By Lloyd McConnell

On October 14, 1878, Judge James M. Pittman was holding court, assisted by Sheriff G. W. Pettigrew, who called the following citizens to serve on the Grand Jury: A. S. Abercrombie, D. H. Ellis and Walker Mankins, all of whom offered excuses acceptable to the Court. T. J. Mullins, P. C. Fritts, John Bassett, R. A. Sharp, George Sparks, J. D. Powell, John C. Pyeatt, T. B. Whitehead, Preston Johnson, W. J. Roberts, P. M. Ownbey, M. E. Buchanan, and J. L. Abercrombey were accepted as jurors. W. J. Mount, W. C. Trent, W. S. Tunstill, M. C. Buchanan, J. W. Greer, C. S. Hauptman and John Billingsley were excused.

The Grand Jury in the early days of Washington County was one of the important arms of the Court. Sixteen good and true men were selected for this duty and, aided by the Prosecuting Attorney, delved into all the violations that had occurred in the county during the past year.

The witnesses who were called before this body did not have their civil rights read to them, were not allowed to have their attorney by their side when answering questions, and did not know about the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution.

It so happened before each term of the court that certain citizens, fearing the grand jury, would slip out of the county for a few weeks, and it was necessary at times for the Sheriff to send some unknown deputy in the community to get service upon wanted witnesses.

To serve on the trial jury came H. L. Glass, Pery Baker, W. P. Scott, A. J. Smith, G. W. Nash, Henry Eidson, Dillard Miller, Wm. Flynn, F. M. Boyd, Wm. A. Vernon, T. J. Shannon, James McCormack, W. V. Dyer, H. H. Mullins, George Patrick, John Matthews, George C. Shinn, James M. Russell, Alexander Howett, H. C. Ritter, Anderson Sanders, James E. Blakemore, W. G. Massie, Johnathan Elms, J. H. Cooper, Henry F. Cate, James Sharp, A. Maguire, James Privett, Alf Williams, John B. Harrison, and J. W. Carney.

The court excused E. S. Cosby, J. S. Vest, W. P. Crawford, T. D. Boles, Wm. F. Wilson, and Wm. Flynn.

Mary Holcomb, who in an earlier term of this court, had been convicted of murder and sentenced to hang, and upon appeal to the Supreme Court had secured a reversal of the sentence, was discharged from the indictment at this term of court and set free.

In misdeameanor court W. C. Jackson and Garland Phillips paid \$25.00 in fines. Howard West and James Mock were acquitted, and Alvin Beatty, Frank Lake and J. T. Carney received fines of \$25.00. Frank

Busey was fined \$5.00 and C. G. Garrison, \$1.00.

Civil Court contestants were C. L. Summers, who sued J. R. Pettigrew; James A. Ferguson suing L. Z. Mayes.

The Sheriff appointed as his deputies at this term W. T. Simpson, J. C. Pettigrew, J. B. Frost, I. G. Combs, J. R. Sorrell, and Wm. M. Harris. I. G. Combs was at some future date to serve as the Sheriff himself.

Continued cases were on the docket against J. C. Hanna, John Stewart and Green Vaughan. A dismissal was granted Press Few, and Frank Lake was fined \$1.00 on an assault and battery charge.

James and Calvin Rutherford obtained a continuance, and their witnesses Benjamin M. Curtis, James Anderson, Frank Colyer, Perry Redmond, T. E. Rogers, Felix Karnes, William Rutherford, and Joseph Lyles were placed under bond. The State held witnesses William Barron, John Phillips and L. C. Blakemore, George Parks and L. E. Barron, along with James Hollabaugh under a like bond.

Daniel Homesley paid \$25.00 fine and was ordered sent out to any workshop or bridge or other public improvement or let out to some reliable person at 75 cents per day until the fine was paid. (You know, that just might cure a lot of misdemeanors in the present day—but, of course, there are other things.)

Thomas Campbell and John Lewis were dismissed, and John Moris found not guilty, while fines were levied against Samuel Paddock, G. W. Tompkins, and Simon Pyeatt.

R. W. Ellis was elected Special Judge to act in cases where Judge Pittman was not qualified due to some legal reason, and the jury acquitted Jesse Jones on a murder charge. Henry Fields had a hung jury and Jonathan McQuirk was fined \$25.00.

Andrew Hayes was not guilty by a jury trial. Cases against Joseph Lyles, Ephriam Foster and Ephraim Ramey were continued, and Silas Gramah placed on a bond, while J. C. Dickinson drew a fine of \$5.00.

In civil court, cases involved James Boyd, J. F. Quillin, C. E. Gee, Thomas J. Patton, Audley Skillern and Thomas Carter. The "disability of minority" was removed for Calvin Rutherford so he could convey real estate.

Newton Jones, charged with murder, was found not guilty by a jury composed of J. B. Hanson, H. C. Ritter, H. H. Mullins, Jonathan Elms, J. E. Blakemore, James Sharp, J. H. Cooper and Henry Eidson. The Fisher Stage Co. was sued by E. J. Rhodes, John Rogers was charged with an assault to kill, and Samuel Johnson and J. B. Simpson were sentenced to terms in prison.

E. B. Moore, J. Q. Benbrook and John Matthews were appointed by the Court as Jury Commissioners.

THE GREGG HOUSE

(From a description written by University of Arkansas students Tommy Tollett and Nancy Wade.)

"The Gregg House, built in 1871 in Fayetteville, Arkansas, is historically significant because of the notoriety of its original owner, Judge Lafayette Gregg. Gregg moved to Fayetteville in 1837 from Moulton, Alabama. He was educated in the Washington County public schools, the Ozark Institute, and the law office of W. D. Reagan." (He became a colonel in the Union Forces in the War Between the States.) "When the Grand Army of the Republic was organized in 1884, Lafayette Gregg was appointed Quartermaster.

"In 1855 he was elected to the state legislature and later (1856-62) became state prosecuting attorney and a member of the state supreme court (1868-71). In 1886 he was the Republican candidate for Governor, running against Hughes (a Democrat), who won.

"Judge Gregg's interests were not restricted to politics. He was a member of the Columbian Exposition Committee (apparently before its opening in 1893, as he died in 1891), an elder in the Christian Church, and president of the Bank of Fayetteville from 1889-1891. One of the most noteworthy duties performed while a lawyer was the writing of the bill locating the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. The resemblance of the Gregg House to Old Main, which was built after the house, can be seen predominantly in the eave bracket details."

(In 1852 Judge Gregg married Mary Shreve (b. 1832, d. 1901) and became the father of six children. One daughter, Miss Ida Gregg, lived in the home and died April 15, 1962. There are six living grandchildren: Annie Gregg, Robert Gregg, Raymond Gregg, Burton Gregg, Russell Cravens Gregg, and Carolyn Gregg Magruder. Mrs. Magruder presently lives in the Gregg home.)

"The Gregg House is located on a site of less than one acre one block east of the campus of the University of Arkansas. That site originally was over three acres and extended to the street bounding the campus. The site is bound on three sides by a wrought-iron fence which was added to an original (1871) sandstone wall sometime after 1881. The original garden is still in evidence.

"The original (1871) brick walk in a V-angle common bond pattern extends from the gate 60 feet to the sandstone front steps with walks circling to each side of the house (for drainage from the brick gutter at the rear porch) and one to the garden on the north.

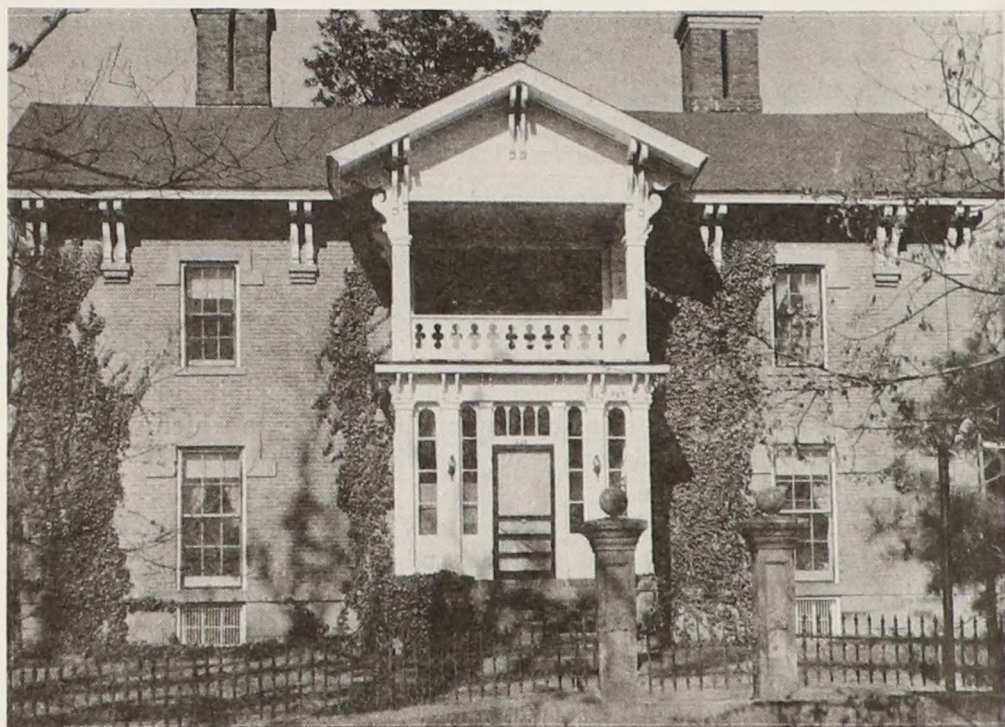
"The house is a two and one-half story Georgian Colonial house with ice house and smoke house/kitchen adjacent. The house is rectilinear in plan with a Palladian influence: central hall with two rooms at each side

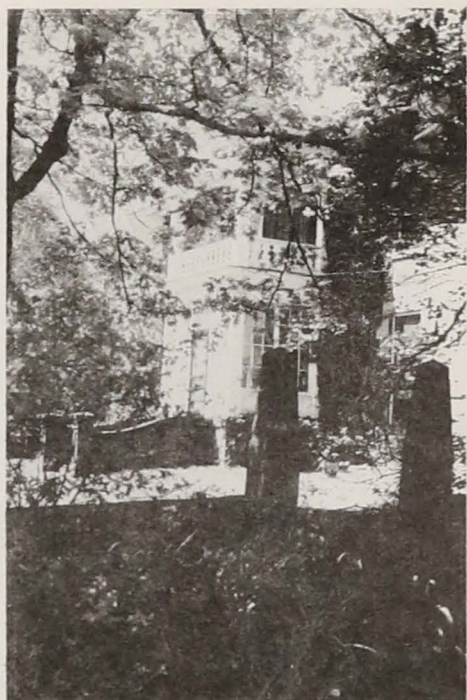
or more commonly called double house. Brick walls are twelve inches thick, burnt-orange, and are common or American bond with pilasters at each corner.

" . . . A prominent characteristic of the house is the use of paired, large-scale scroll brackets along both the gables and eaves of the gable roof. These are reminiscent of the Hudson River Valley brackets and the Second Empire brackets which were at their peak at the time of construction of this house . . . The ice house uses triplets of more delicate brackets.

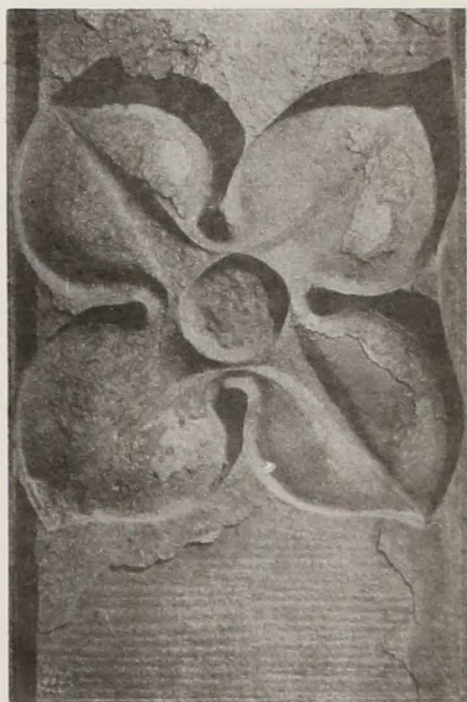
"Two interior chimneys provide flues for eight fireplaces. These break the roof at the rear of the roof ridge and are coped with sandstone. The interiors are not elaborate in detail. Wall finishes are painted plaster or wall-papered plaster. Floors are hardwood. The doors are the original four-panel solid doors with original locks and porcelain knobs. On each side of the door leading from the hall to the back porch is a glazed door which, with the casement windows of the entrance porch, provide light and ventilation. The fireplaces have brick hearths and white marble mantels, friezes, and architraves in simple design.

"In this century several partitions have been added and plumbing and central heating installed. Bathrooms and kitchens have been added in both levels of the house and in the ice house and kitchen building to provide for rental apartments. However, alterations are not major."

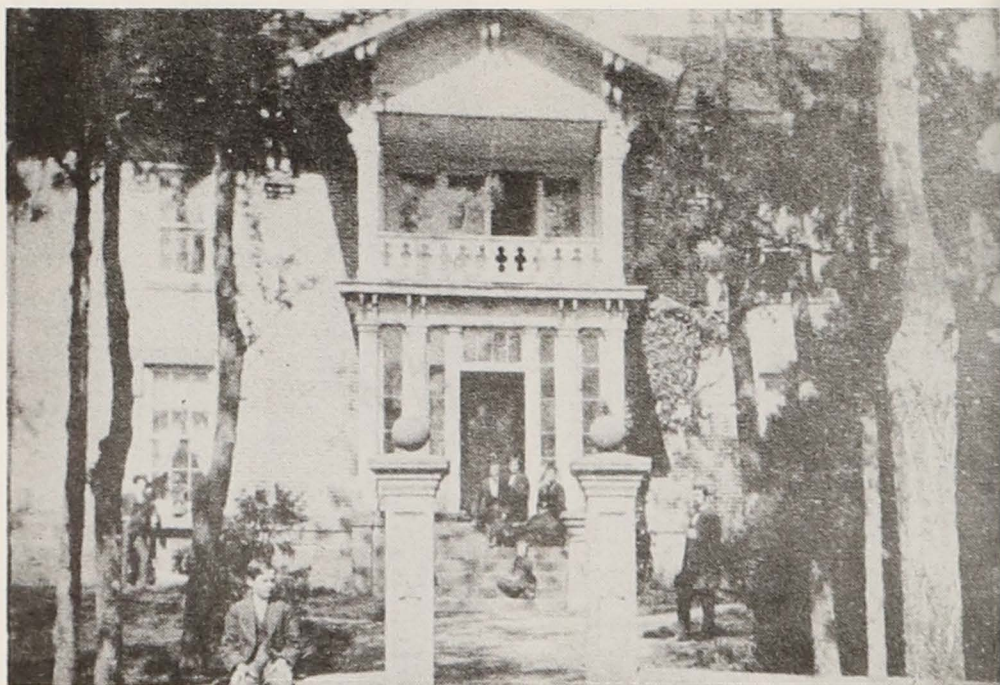




Building Date and Gatepost On Which It Appears



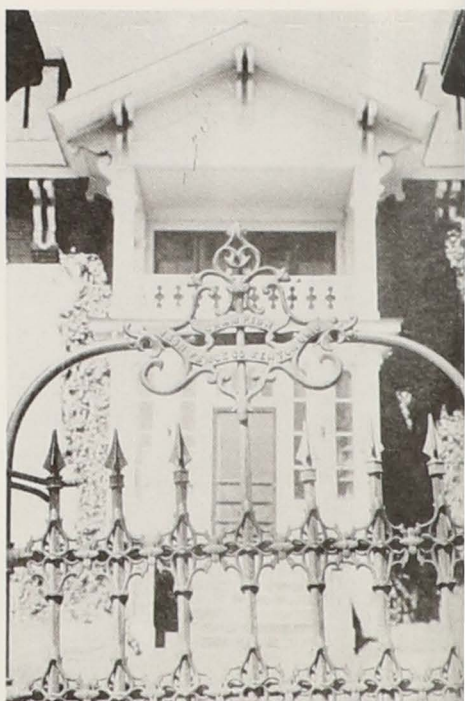
Stile and Close-up of Dogwood Bas-relief



Front View Before Wrought Iron Fence Was Added



After Addition of Fence



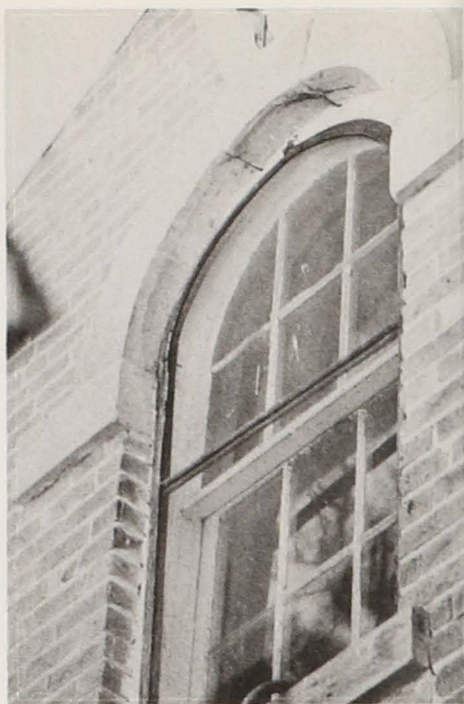
Wrought Iron Gate



Eave Brackets — Plain

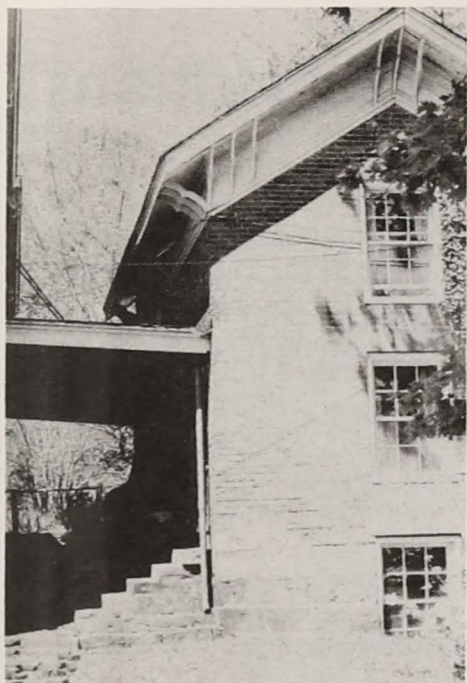


and Fancy

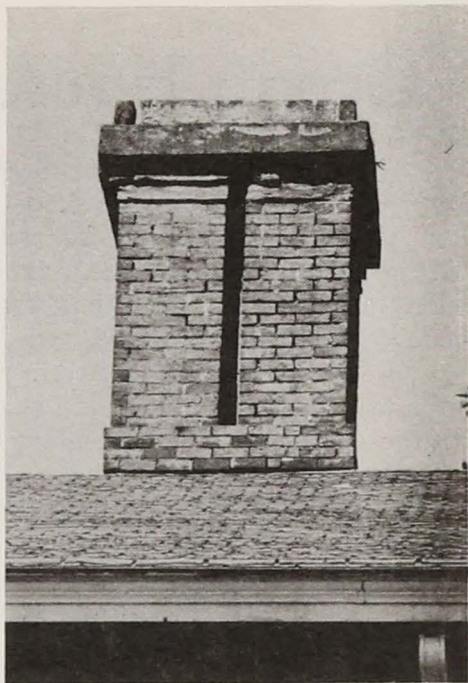


Windows





The Annex



4 Way Chimney



Garden From The North

Gregg House Specifications

By Stephen Morrill

The following pages are carpentry specifications of the Lafayette Gregg house of Fayetteville, Arkansas, built in 1871. These are a few of many such specifications that were drawn up by the owner and tradesmen (carpenters, masons, etc.), that took part in the erection of the house. The language used herein may seem awkward to the profession of architecture today, but note the detailing of proportions that were left to the decision of the carpenters themselves . . . "The base boards, fire mantles, and window framing to be of weight in proportion to the other works of building, not to have large or excessive amounts of carving or polishing . . . " (the lost art of carpentry).

The foregoing photographs are of individual features of the house that make it not only an extraordinary work of Arkansas architecture during this period, but an outstanding structure in itself.

"Witnesseth

"That Lafayette Gregg contemplates having erected a two story brick building to be about 53 long by 35 feet wide from out to out, and the walls to be of such thickness and stories of such height as he may direct to be upon the foundation now being laid at his residence, two cellars with six windows in the basement, four rooms and a hall of about 13 feet in the clear upon the lower floor the size and shape of the rooms to be at his option. A portico in front 8 by 14 ft. or as much less as he may desire and a porch 8 feet wide to extend the whole length of the building on the 1st and 2nd story in the rear.

"The building to have 14 doors of ordinary size on the lower floor and two sets of folding doors across the hall, the front folding doors to be sash above the 1st (?) pannel (sic), and half the rear folding doors to be sash above the first pannel, sash of such dimensions as he may choose. The portico to be entirely closed four columns in front between the centre two a door between the other sash and lights. The same on the sides of sash of such dimensions as may be directed. Six large windows in the lower rooms, One stairs from back porch to land near centre of building to be enclosed with such (- - - ?) and shape as he may direct one set of stairs in the north front room narrow and enclosed with closet underneath the former stair way to have cellar door underneath and two wardrobes on lower floor.

"On the 2nd floor four doors of ordinary size and two set of folding

doors across the hall the front ones to be sash above the 1st pannel and half the rear ones to be sash above 1st pannel as below and portico not enclosed only roofing and balustrading, eight large windows in the rooms of 2nd story, three wardrobes and a flight of stairs from the back verando to the attic floor to be enclosed with entrance door and 2 windows in the attic.

"The building to have two large stack chimneys with a fireplace in each of the 8 rooms and the roof is to be framed and put on in the most approved and substantial manner and of the best finish for a shingle roof, the projections of the roof to be heavy the cornice to be of the best finish, and such (number?) of brackets of such pattern as he may select equal to the pattern furnished, the general finish of the house to be heavy neat and substantial and the neat finish of all the projections and cornice of the portico to be well and neatly finished and of weight well proportioned to the building the roof thereof to be well framed and put on with the roof of the main building.

"The base boards fire mantles and window framing to be of weight in proportion to the other workds of the building not to be large or have excessive amounts of carving or polishing but to have such heavy mouldings on them as he may select, the window sash to be hung on weights, all the doors including the wardrobe and closet doors to be fashionable doors neatly finished. The floors all to be well jointed, tongued and grooved, and all the hall porch and portico floors to be well dressed stairways to be railed up and banistered or balustraded up on the upper floors, upper back porch railed and balustraded (- - - ?).

"The Cornice and other finish above the lower front folding doors to be heavy wood work and finely finished that were the other folding doors to be well done but not so costly. The roof, Cornice and brackets on the back porch to be well proportioned to the front finish, the two front lower rooms to be striped with wood ready for lathing and plastering, the windows and doors of the cellars are to be included, and the space on the north between main building and the out building now erected to be roofed the length of the out building.

"Now it is agreed by us Alexander Hendry and William Marian that we will do all the carpenters work on the building equal in style and finish to what is described and it is understood that all laying out and drafting as well as all finishing joining roofing and every other part and parcel of the wood or carpenters work on and about said building is to be by us done, and it is understood and agreed that all minor details of the wood of carpenters work in and about such building are included

herein and said Gregg is at liberty to increase the number of doors or make any other changes in the plan or finish of said building and no extra charge is to be made therefor unless such change very greatly increase the work over what is herein intimated and we agree further to take charge of the brick work of said building in so much that we will overlook the masons and give them all necessary instructions in order to have the walls window and doorways be put up in an approved style and at such times as the same may be needed are to finish and put up in all necessary frames wooden braces wood bricks for fastenings (etc.). And we are to direct and examine the painting as it progresses and see whether or not the same is done according to the contract between said Gregg and Charles S. Hauptman, and we are to have the woodwork of said building completed in the manner and style aforesaid within six months after the brick walls are completed which the said Gregg is to have done within 18 months from date.

"It being understood and agreed that said Gregg is to furnish us with all necessary rough sawed or other wood material as well as locks nails and other hardware, the wood material necessary to be sawed planed or jointed by machinery to be delivered at our shop at Fayetteville and the work when completed to be rehailed to the building the other material to be delivered at the building.

"And it is understood and agreed that for the superintendent and control of said building and all work thereon and the performing of all of said carpenter's work as aforesaid and for the full and entire completion of the wood or carpenters work about the same and every part (and trace of?) ready for use and occupation the said Gregg is to pay us said Hendry and Marian the sum of **twenty two hundred and fifty dollars** \$750 of which is to be paid before the completion of the building \$500 is to be paid at three months after the completion of the building \$500 at six months after its completion and \$500 at nine months after its completion and if said sums are not paid at the times above specified then we are not to sue on the last three demands for one year thereafter but we are to have 10 percent interest on all of said sums from maturity. In witness that we will perform our respective covenants herein we have hereunto set our hands and seal this 27th day of June, 1867.

Alexander Hendry (seal)

W. H. Marian (seal)

Lafayette Gregg (seal)"

WICKWIRE CEMETERY

By Burlene Hilton

Recently, while taking a trip along the old Butterfield State Route south of Strickler, we came to the little community of Bugscuffle and cemetery located beside a neat little community building. The cemetery was very well kept and had a new fence around it. I then wondered if this had been recorded for publishing in the booklet series, so checked by FLASH-BACK index and found that it had been visited by the late Dr. Lemke and only six pioneers listed and published in the May 1957 issue, page 28. At this time he also asked for more information about the cemetery and the real name.

That evening I called a resident in the area, Mrs. Loyd Keck, and she agreed to take the census. She informed me the name was "Wickwire" and had been nicknamed "Bugscuffle." Mrs. Keck and her son did take the census and it is as follows:

Adkinson, Almedia 1870-1884	Macadoo, Minnie 1899-1934
Bullington, Rosa 1886-1910	Martin, Charley 1883-1963
Cantrell, John 1883-1949	Martin, Richard 1886-1965
Caswell, P. M. 1859-1931	Means, Wilma 1876-1917
Coffman, Mary 1864-1932	McCamish, Orgal 1907-1909
Cooksey, Mary 1920-1921	Neal, Neomi T. 1861-1931
Cooksey, Orpha 1906-1962	Neal, John F. 1855-1911
Cooksey, William 1905-1960	Pearson, Mima 1915-1936
Crawley, Alma 1933	Quinton, Eva 1886-1945
Crawley, Clifford H. b. and d. 1931	Quinton, James Gettie 1893-1920
Crawley, Trelor b. and d. 1911	Quinton, Jesse Carl 1925-1942
Crawley, Velma b. and d. 1914	Sargent, Lovina 1836-1903
Crawley, William 1930	Sargent, Samuel 1834-1915
Hampton, James 1854-1933	Spencer, Fred 1926-1913 (?)
Hampton, Margaret 1854-1939	Steward, Charles H. 1868-1952
Hodges, Arless 1914-1920	Steward, James E. 1894-1923
Hodges, Claud 1925-1927	Steward, Millessa 1872-1947
Hodges, Minnie 1964	Vafakos, Hazel 1897-1950
Hodges, Poly 1877-1901	Vafakos, Philophenos 1921-1921
Huff, J. H. 1888-1908	Vandyke, Elliott Cecil 1907-1919
Jenkins, I. L. 1860-1937	Vandyke, Marshall 1844-1922
Keck, Ellen, 1917-1948	Waterson, Susan 1840-1924
Keck, Harrett 1839-1906	Wilson, Billie 1847-1935
Keck, Jacob 1832-1905	Wilson, Virginia 1866-1957
Keck, Loyd 1912-1967	Wilson, William A. 1900-1916
Keck, Otto 1908-1913	Woolbright, Emma R. 1879-1953
Keck, W. J. 1877-1958	Woolbright, Perry 1881-1945

KINGS CEMETERY

- A Trust -

One of the older cemeteries in Washington County is Kings Cemetery on the Middle Fork of White River. The river road from Highway 16 at Lake Sequoyah to Black Oak runs by the ancient burying ground.

George W. King (1815-1867) and his wife Tennessee King (1820-1919) established this cemetery and erected a log cabin near it. Camp meetings were held there in the early days.

The first burial probably was that of Andrew Wood who died in 1832. It was followed by that of Avis Wood in 1840, and John Wood in 1848. Nathan Tharp died in 1849. Jane Wood, the mother of Dr. Harvey D. Wood, longtime Fayetteville physician, is buried here.

So is Andrew S. (Parson Wood) teacher and singing school master. James McCutcheon Campbell and wife Minerva Simpson Campbell, Lewis N. Campbell, B. F. Johnson and Lydia Lewis Johnson are other names on the markers.

Lettie Mayes of Fayetteville, Mrs. Shirley Cox of Tulsa, John and Indiana Fincher (early settlers who came by river boat to the new territory), Joseph and Salina Williams, Joseph and Elizabeth Morgan, John and Malinda Fletcher sleep here.

Others buried here are Joseph N. and Alice M. Liles, John J. and Rachel Mills Van Hoose, George W. and Mrs. Van Hoose, Job and Sarah Fletcher, John V. and Lydia Fletcher Robers, William and Elizabeth Robers.

Many early grave markers were carved out of huge sandstone slabs, coffin shaped, and placed over the graves. Some of these have been lowered to ground level and the walls gave way, or to permit mowers to be used to keep the cemetery neat and clean.

In the past few years a trust has been organized by interested kinfolk of these early people, who have created a fund which now provides that the cemetery will always be kept cleaned, fenced and mowed, and the markers repaired when broken and lying on the ground.

This is a very worthwhile project and could be adopted by many of our people who are interested in other graveyards.

Marriages In 1883

By Lloyd McConnell

J. D. Grimes, 26, of Fayetteville and Miss Titia Hale, 25 of Springdale took their license to the Rev. S. R. Beaman, who declared them husband and wife as of Dec. 26.

Justice J. C. Massie performed the May 3 ceremony for A. J. Grubb of Durham and Miss Elizabeth Gray. He was 23 and she 22 years of age.

John Guinn, 16 and Miss M. E. Reed, 18, both of Hazel Valley, pledged their love and faith in a ceremony before Preacher Edmon Osburn on July 22. She was 18, and he boasted of 16 years.

A. A. Gulley, 33 of Fayetteville, and Miss Mattie Anderson, 18, also of the Fayetteville area, were married on Nov. 17, with the Rev. John Mayes reading their ceremony.

A Strickler couple, John Hammontree, 21 and Miss Mildred Clark, also 21, were married by the Rev. James Whitaker, a local minister, on Sept. 2.

John Gullis (which may have been Gillis), age 21, and Miss Mary E. Cooper, both of Cincinnati, she at 19, were married on Jan. 1, by J. S. Cowan, a minister.

William Hammontree, 23 and Miss Elizabeth Malicoat, age 18, both of Billingsley, were married by The Rev. Mathew Sympres on Aug. 5.

An old time Justice of the Peace Bracken Lewis performed the ceremony for Seldon Hanna 25 and Miss A. H. Perry, 22 of the Carters Store area on Feb. 21. Bracken came here in the Early Days.

T. J. Harp 25 and Miss Annie S. Head, 23 went to the Rev. Johnson Crawford for a wedding on Jan. 3. He was from West Fork and his bride lived on Middle Fork in the Carters store neighborhood.

Thomas Hartgraves, a Winslow resident, and Miss Manerivia Mathews of Cincinnati, he 37 and she 34, were married by W. D. Parks, J. P. on March 1.

Justice of the Peace D. E. Jackson of Brentwood read the ceremony and signed the certificate for Richard Haslett, 28 and Miss Tiney Hopkins, 18, on Oct. 8.

A Weddington couple, Lewis Hatfield, age 55 and Mrs. Harriett Smith, 40, were married by the Rev. J. S. Cowan, on Jan. 9.

The Rev. F. R. Earle joined Boonsboro couple F. P. Henry and Miss Mary Carnyhan in wedded bliss on Feb. 14. He was 21 and she 20.

J. T. Hester 23 and Miss Margaret Gainses, 21, both of Fayetteville, had their ceremony by Eli Baker on Sept. 16. Eli was a minister of the gospel.

The Rev. John Mayes, performed the March 27, wedding for R. J. Hewitt and Miss Mollie Jacks. He was 21 and she 15, both lived at Fayetteville.

J. T. Hewitt, 24 of Elm Springs and Miss Emma C. Weir, 18, also of that neighborhood, were married by the Rev. David Sturdy on March 14.

C. M. Hewitt, 25 and Miss Cornelia Moneyhun, 20 both of the Springdale area, were married on Christmas Day with the Rev. W. H. Corley reading the script. (This may be the beginning of Hewitt Springs settlement).

Hazel Valley couple Jesse Hobbs 58, and Mrs. Martha Osborn, 54, were married on Dec. 9, with J. S. Mahan officiating.

W. H. Holcomb 21, and Miss Mary Givens, 19, were married by Norman F. Goodrich on Oct. 25. Both lived at or near Springdale.

Farmington young folks W. D. Holland 25 and Miss Maggie Brooks, 24, had their service by Justice of the Peace John P. Wilson. Their date was Sept. 30.

John Holt, 21 and Miss Mollie Percell, also 21, of Springdale, went to the Rev. S. R. Beaman who married them on Jan. 19.

S. H. Horsley, 48 and Mrs. Mary E. Funkhouser, 44, both of the Sexton Community near Dutch Mills, said their vows before the Rev. J. F. Dobbs on Feb. 1.

J. L. D. Houston, 30 and Miss M. F. Armstrong, 25 both of Springdale, had their wedding by the Rev. D. C. Boggs on June 27.

Dutch Mills minister Ira Williams performed the ceremony for W. C. Houston, 26 and Miss Calie Taylor, 18 both of Boonsboro on Feb. 18.

Evansville couple A. J. Howard 38 and Mrs. Mariah Wilson 30, were married on Nov. 22, by S. P. Sawyer, a minister of the Gospel.

Hot Springs resident F. M. Hudgins, 30, came up to wed Miss L. Izetta Blakely, 24 of Fayetteville. The wedding was by the Rev. John Mayes on Aug. 11.

Brentwood folks John Huggins, 35 and Miss Margaret C. Dunbar were married by Justice D. E. Jackson on July 11.

E. J. Hughes, 48 and Mrs. Mary Farris, 40, were married by John T. Boyd, on Dec. 20. They gave their address as Springdale.

A. E. Hutchens, of Brentwood, and Miss M. E. Hanna of Carters Store, were married on Feb. 21, by Justice of the Peace D. E. Jackson. The groom was 28 and his bride 24.

J. W. Johnson 26, and Miss M. C. Anderson, 22, were married by E. E. Morros, a Minister on Jan. 14. Both lived at Winslow.

A Prairie Grove couple, James Jones and Miss Nannie Skinner, ages 24 and . . . were married by the Rev. Samuel N. Burnes on April 15.

Jonathan Jordan, 18 and Miss Hiley York, 14 years of age, were married on Oct. 16, by F. F. Curtis, a preacher and Justice of the Peace, and he was my grand-dad!

Henry J. Kaister 21 and Miss Jane Herron, 20 of Fayetteville, had their ceremony by Eli Baker on Jan. 25.

James M. Karnes 26, and Miss M. A. Winn, 18, both of West Fork, were married by The Rev. J. D. Woolsey on Oct. 21.

West Fork couple O. L. Karnes 55, and Miss Catherine Mills, 45, were married by Justice D. E. Jackson on Dec. 21.

A Strickler couple Sam Karr and Miss Lucy J. Dotson were married on March 9, by James Whitaker, MG. He was 25 and she 21.

John Kelly, 27 and Miss Eva G. Slade, 17, both of West Fork, went to F. F. Curtis, a Justice of the Peace for a wedding on June 15.

The Rev. Sebourn T. Graham officiated at the marriage ceremony of C. F. Lahnher, 26 and Miss Martha E. Shackley 18, both of Springdale on Sept. 20.

The Rev. J. S. Cowan performed the Aug. 23, ceremony for Wedington-Cincinnati couple Laurence Langford, 21 and Miss Bertha E. Paddock.

Rheas Mill couple Isaac Law, 27 and Miss Betty Mayberry, 26, were married by Justice of the Peace J. Wassum, on Sept. 19.

A Couple from Cincinnati J. M. Laymon, 23 and Miss Clara F. Murpy, were married July 8, by J. F. Dobbs, a Minister of the Gospel.

June 28, was the date for J. Layton, 21 and Miss Lizzie Gray, 18 who took their vows before Joseph Waddell, a Minister.

Charlie Lee, 20 and Miss Emma D. Dove, 18, both of Strickler, took their vows before the Rev. R. M. Wood on Dec. 15.

M. D. Lewis, age 50, and Mrs. M. E. Maness, age 37, Maguire Store residents took their vows before A. Huckleaby, on April 28.

Thomas W. Long, 27 and Miss Martha Burge, 20 both of Hazel Valley, were married by the Rev. Edmon Osborn on Sept. 23.

Justice of the Peace R. A. Rutherford performed the ceremony for Reuben Loring, 49 and Miss Hannah Jackson, 29, both of Carters Store, on July 26.

G. S. Loving, of Wesley and Mrs. Mary Ann Smith, of Cincinnati, age 63 and 44, had their wedding by J. S. Cowan, MG. on Dec. 10.

K. D. Littrell, 23 and Miss Nancy Barrett, 22 of Goshen, had Justice of the Peace B. F. James unite them in marriage on Aug. 9.

Queries

WALKER

Mrs. Gladys L. Walker, 4734 Eighth Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90043 is anxious to obtain historical information on descendants of Col. Benjamin F. Walker, 1820-1846, or his father, Dr. Thomas Walker, 1748-1845. Does not know whether they are of the Fayetteville Walkers or not. Any information will be appreciated.

NIXON, ELLIOTT, KEESEE, PARKER, WOOTTEN, BARNARD, WILCOX

Francis Nixon (b. 1770 N. Car.) married in Madison Co., Ky. in 1798 to Catherine Elliott (b. 1778 N. Car.). They lived in Kentucky 1804, Tennessee 1813, Alabama 1817, Tennessee 1830, Missouri 1840, and Arkansas 1850-60. Children were: Elliott H., John Coffee, Lorenzo Dow, Andrew Jackson, George W. C., Francis Marion, and James Monroe. These married into the families of Keesee, Parker, Wootten, Barnard, and Wilcox. I would like to correspond with anyone connected with these families in Arkansas.

Mrs. Gene Harris, 1404 Borger Street, Plainview, Texas 79072.

BUCHANAN - CRAWFORD

Prof. Howard V. Jones, 18 Winter Ridge Road, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613 is seeking descendants of Joseph C. Buchanan, Leander Buchanan, and John A. Crawford (wife Frances Buchanan), early comers to Washington County. He will share information.

(He congratulates the Washington County Historical Society for its fine publication and expresses the wish that more counties were doing the same. Thanks for the flowers!)

Another seeking information on the same persons is Genevieve B. Hilliard, 2425 Sage Road, Apt. 109, Houston, Texas 77027. She wants information on John Buchanan, son of Leander Buchanan. John had one son, William Lee Buchanan (her father) by his first wife. Were there other children? Her dad had two half-sisters, Caldona Bell Buchanan Rollans and Kate Buchanan Cox of Prairie Grove.

PATRICK

H. H. Patrick, Cane Hill, Arkansas 72717 asks if anyone knows the descendants of W. R. Patrick, born Jan. 19, 1870 in Texas. Came to Washington County and settled along the White River. His wife was E. M. Honeycutt.

QUERIES (continued)

BOWEN

Mrs. Bill Lane, 1147 Dublin Lane, Cottage Grove, Oregon 97424, wrote us on June 13th asking for information about her kinfolk, William Riley Bowen and wife Elizabeth, who lived around Dutch Mills. Mr. Bowen died in 1912 and his wife in 1932. She visited Bethesda cemetery last summer, and the graves of her grandparents are unmarked. She will appreciate any information regarding the couple when they lived near Dutch Mills.

KINCANNON, LUCAS, BLACKBURN

In answer to a query in FLASHBACK from a subscriber in Algeria, William C. Hale of Merced, California has sent her the family histories of the persons she was searching for. Thanks to Mr. Hale for replying.

SCHOOL CHILDREN AND ARKANSAS HISTORY

At the quarterly meeting of the WCHS at Battlefield Park in Prairie Grove on Sunday, June 10, a program was presented by the children of Asbel school. It was followed by a general question and answer program by the school children. The following hints were given. Can you identify the places?

A senator lived here.

Built by a Yankee officer.

Nearly a century old.

Little house on the big campus.

Sooiee pig!!

The Trail of Tears rest stop.

The Arlington of Fayetteville.

Play ball.

Waxhaws.

Rest in Peace, Honored Dead.

Marshall Dillon could have slept here.

Contractor to Governor.

Smoky Row.

\$49.50 for a house.

Hand-made brick.

A safe place from the Indian War.

The back is now the front.

Wealthy Indian girls.

Stagecoach ride.

Bloody Corner.

The Secretary's Page

How do you feel about the new look of the FLASHBACK? At first we were under the impression that everyone liked it, that it was a great improvement, but lately we've heard a few gripes. "Not enough material" (actually it contains more than the old style.) "Liked the bigger size better" (it would be cheaper to do it the old way.) Anyway, we'd appreciate a postcard poll from our members giving their viewpoints.

A family chart is dull reading until you liven it up with some story or tradition about the family. Hunt up and send us little items of interest about your ancestors. Something that happened to them long ago may make good reading now. Old letters tell us much.

Write down what you can learn about your parents and grandparents, as far back as they can remember. These things will be lost forever when they are gone unless they are written down now. Use correct names and dates. If you use nicknames, always give the correct name in parentheses. Your children may someday pick up the little slip it is written on to tell it to their children. Be sure it is dated and tells them something about you.

Although WCHS is not primarily a genealogical society, we try to be helpful to our members and friends when we can. This has become quite an expense, even though our help is all volunteer. To offset this, we've decided to charge a fee of \$5.00 for looking up and transmitting records in response to requests from out of town. Actual cash expenditures will have to be added to that fee. The money will go toward expanding our genealogical library.

Just knew it would happen sometime! A lady wrote asking about some early residents of Washington County. In checking it up, we discovered that the husband and wife and a son were hanged in Fayetteville in 1845. Always heard it don't do to dig too deep in ancestral history.

Life memberships in the Washington County Historical Society are available for \$100 each, which is placed in a savings certificate and the interest used in the general fund. We have one \$400 certificate and would welcome others. The \$100 is deductible.



WHEN YOU MOVE PLEASE SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS. FLASHBACKS ARE MAILED IN PERMIT ENVELOPES AND CANNOT BE FORWARDED. THEY ARE RETURNED TO US FOR REMAILING AND COST 24 CENTS EXTRA.

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